

Applicant : Brandyn Webb, et al.
Serial No. : 09/788,526
Filed : February 21, 2001
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Attorney's Docket No.: 07844-478001 / P442

Amendment to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

As shown in FIG. 3, an online forum devoted to a particular topic may exist on a computer service, and a single or multiple instances of that forum may exist. When a user of the computer service joins a forum (300), the computer service determines whether or not all of the instances of the forum are full (310). An instance of the forum may be deemed full based on a variety of criteria. For example, an instance of a forum may be deemed full if the number of participants in the instance equals or exceeds a designated ~~designated~~ number of participants for the instance. Alternatively, an instance of the forum may be deemed full if the activity of the participants in the instance exceeds a threshold. For example, if the message rate or the data transfer rate over a period of time in a chat room instance exceeds a threshold, the instance of the chat room may be deemed full, or if the frame update rate of a 3D virtual world falls below a threshold because the rendering engine is overloaded by the user activity, the 3D virtual world may be deemed full.